

## **Chapter 5**

### **Health and Safety**

#### **5-1. General**

This chapter provides an overview of health and safety considerations. A more detailed discussion of health and safety considerations is presented in EM 1110-35-1, which should be consulted before beginning a project.

#### **5-2. Responsibilities**

USACE has the primary responsibility of ensuring the health and safety of all onsite USACE personnel and overseeing the health and safety practices of all of its contractors. This includes practices that might affect the health and safety of onsite personnel, that might threaten to contaminate the environment, and/or practices that might affect potential offsite receptors.

#### **5-3. Site Safety and Health Plan**

To support this responsibility, a site safety and health plan for each project is required by 29 CFR 1910.120 (29 CFR 1926.65 is the parallel Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) construction regulation at these sites). This document will outline the procedures needed to protect workers against the physical, chemical, and radioactive hazards of a site. This plan is an extremely important document, and each worker must become familiar with the procedures and requirements contained in it, especially those for emergencies. Site safety and health plans are discussed more fully in EM 1110-35-1, EM 385-1-1 ("Safety and Health Requirements Manual"), and Engineer Regulation (ER) 385-1-92.

#### **5-4. Designated Personnel**

It is important to know who to notify in case of an emergency. At all USACE remediation sites, a project team

will provide management of all technical activities. This team is composed of an Individual Project Manager who acts as the leader, a Technical Manager, a Field Team Leader, a Site Safety Officer, and a Health Physicist or Health Physics Technician. Any problems related to radiation safety must be reported immediately to the health physicist or health physics technician. All safety problems will be reported to the Site Safety Officer.

#### **5-5. Worker Health and Safety**

Protection of both workers and the public against potential dangers at LLRW remediation sites should receive the highest priority. Special precautions relative to LLRW and MW sites include:

- a. Medical surveillance.*
- b. Training.*
- c. Protective equipment.*
- d. Decontamination*
- e. Monitoring.*
- f. Emergency procedures.*
- g. Recordkeeping.*

Each of these considerations is discussed in detail in EM 1110-35-1.

#### **5-6. References**

ER 385-1-92 comprehensively establishes those safety and health documents and procedures required to be developed for LLRW and hazardous and toxic waste activities. 29 CFR 1910.120 should be considered the primary reference for all safety and health-related matters at hazardous waste operations.